



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

For Immediate Release:
March 22, 2006

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Dante Pistone
775.687.9395

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE

CARSON CITY -- The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) will award some \$150,000 in grants to municipalities, educational institutions and nonprofit organizations for projects that enhance solid waste management systems and recycling projects, particularly in rural areas, NDEP officials announced today.

The announcement comes on the heels of the State Environmental Commission's approval this month of regulations to implement the grants program, pursuant to the passage of Senate Bill 396 in the 2005 legislative session.

"In the past, NDEP has utilized contract agreements to assist public and private entities in conserving natural resources and reducing the amount of waste generated in Nevada," said Eric Noack, chief of NDEP's Bureau of Waste Management. "Grants, however, are a much better way to distribute the funds, because of the wide variety of projects involved."

NDEP officials are particularly excited about the new opportunities to work with rural communities to curtail "rural dumping," a major cause of visual and environmental pollution in the rural areas.

The new regulations establish criteria for determining eligibility, administration and organization of the solid waste grants program. The funding level will be approximately \$150,000 annually, the same amount that was available for the pre-existing recycling contracts program. The source of the funding is the Solid Waste Management Account that receives a one-dollar-per-tire retail surcharge assessed on the sale of all new tires in Nevada.

Grant applications will be accepted beginning this summer. A committee of state officials will evaluate the applications and award the grants.

Interested parties may call Ed Glick at (775) 687-9467 to obtain a grant application or to request more information on the grants program. Information of the state's solid waste management program is available on NDEP's website at www.ndep.nv.gov/bwm/solid.htm

###